

United States House of Representatives



**Subcommittee on National Security,
Emerging Threats and International Relations**

Christopher Shays, Connecticut
Chairman

B-372 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: 202-225-2548
Fax: 202-225-2382

****MEDIA ADVISORY****

For Immediate Release
June 8, 2006

Contact: Robert Briggs

**Chairman Shays to Hold June 13th Hearing on
Private Security Firms Operating in Iraq**

(Washington, DC)—Congressman Christopher Shays (R-CT), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats, and International Relations will convene an oversight hearing to examine the roles and missions, standards, capabilities, coordination and actions of private security firms (PSF) protecting government and contractor personnel.

William Solis, of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) will discuss the July 2005 report, entitled, *“Rebuilding Iraq: Actions Needed to Improve Use of Private Security Providers,”* in addition to providing an update of the recommendations offered in this report. Other government witnesses, including Department of Defense, State and USAID will discuss the specific GAO recommendations dealing with the development of improved coordination approaches and, for units deploying to Iraq, training materials on PSF operations and military procedures for coordination with PSFs.

Additionally, witnesses from private security firms operating in Iraq, including Blackwater USA, DynCorp International, Triple Canopy will discuss their companies’ personnel standards and training, as well as their roles and mission and experiences in Iraq coordinating with the Coalition military and Iraq security forces.

The hearing, ***“Private Security Firms: Standards, Cooperation and Coordination on the Battlefield”*** is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13, at 2:00 pm in room 2247 Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, DC.

Committee on Government Reform
Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats, and International Relations

***“Private Security Firms:
Standards, Cooperation and Coordination on the Battlefield”***

Witness List

Panel One

Mr. William M. Solis

Director, Defense Capabilities and Management
Government Accountability Office

Representative

Department of Defense

Mr. Greg Starr

Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Diplomatic Security
Department of State

Mr. James Kunder

Assistant Administrator for the Near East and Africa
U.S. Agency for International Development

Panel Two

Mr. Chris Taylor

Vice President
Blackwater USA

Major General Robert Rosenkranz (US Army, Retired)

President
International Technical Service
DynCorp International

Mr. Ignacio Balderas

former CEO and current Board of Directors Member
Triple Canopy

Mr. Doug Brooks

President
International Peace Operations Association